

COTTON IN RAW STATE IS EXEMPT

Col. O'Neill Receives Opinion of
Attorney General Construing
Law Enacted by Last
Legislature

NOT REPEALED BY SUBSEQUENT ACT

Held That New Statute Effective
in Time to Save Payment
of Tax on Present
Crop

Cotton and other farm products in the raw state are exempt from taxation under a law passed by the last legislature, according to the opinion of the attorney general, received by Col. J. T. O'Neill of this city, in response to an inquiry.

On December 21, Colonel O'Neill wrote to Attorney General Freeling as follows:

"We passed an act at the last legislature, exempting farm products in the raw state from taxation. See Acts, 1915, page 64.

Our purpose was to prevent the mulcting the farmers about this time of year of from one to two dollars per bale on cotton, on the theory that all cotton in bales at this season, on hand January 1, would be liable to taxation. The same, as to other agricultural products named in the act.

"I hear it rumored here, that you have given an opinion that cotton in bales must in spite of this act, be assessed for taxation after January 1, 1916. I write to know if such an opinion has emanated from your office and if so upon what grounds it is based? If this be your construction of the law, it because the cotton buyers must take this burden into consideration, for it will mean more to him, than his usual profit on a bale, and he will very naturally make the farmer stand for the tax."

Replying to the above request, Assistant Attorney General Smith Matson said some there was some question as to whether the law in question was repealed by a subsequent act, but the state's legal department held that it had not been repealed. Mr. Matson enclosed a copy of the opinion which was rendered by the attorney general in response to a request from Governor Williams last April. This opinion, in part, was as follows:

"OKLAHOMA CITY, April 26, 1915.—To the governor: Some days ago you presented to this office a request for an opinion on the question of whether or not cotton, corn, wheat, oats and the like, while remaining in the raw state, are subject to assessment and taxation on an ad valorem basis this year."

Replying you are advised that house bill No. 14 of the last legislature, approved February 25, 1915, and carrying the emergency, provides that such products shall not be subject to ad valorem tax, but shall be subject to the income tax law of the state.

This act amended section 7302, Revised Laws of 1910. Later the legislature by house bill No. 84, approved March 11, 1915, which also carried an emergency clause, again amended section 7302, supra, to read as follows:

"All property in this state whether real or personal, including the property of corporations, banks and bankers, except bonds of this state, and its counties, cities, towns, school districts and other municipalities of this state except such as is exempt shall be subject to taxation, but the income of said municipalities of this state shall be taxable under the income tax law."

These laws being both passed at the same session of the legislature and both amendatory of the same section of the statute must be construed together so as to make a harmonious whole if possible.

It may be contended that the latter law repealed house bill No. 14, but in this view we cannot concur, because there is nothing in the latter law that expressly repeals the former, and the language used, in our opinion, could not be construed to that effect.

It was evidently the intention of the legislature to exempt such products from ad valorem taxation, and to provide for their taxation under the income tax law, the same as the bonds

of the municipality were provided to be taxed under house bill No. 84.

With this construction of these acts, the question necessarily arises, does house bill No. 14 become effective so as to prevent the taxation of such products this year on an ad valorem basis? The weight of authority that we have been able to find, holds that where an act substitutes a different method of taxation for the ad valorem tax and such act takes effect pending the proceedings leading to an assessment, but before the same becomes final, that the act providing the new method of taxation becomes at once operative and effective. Under our statutes (chap. 152, Session Laws of 1911), it certainly cannot be said that the assessment has become final until the rolls are closed for the year. The county assessor does not make his report to the county board of equalization until the first Monday in June and even after that time the county board will have the right to make corrections as well as also would the state board.

We conclude therefore that house bill No. 14 was not repealed by house bill No. 84, but that the one supplements the other and neither are inconsistent; and that the products mentioned in house bill No. 14 are not taxable for this year on an ad valorem basis, but that the same are subject to be taxed under the income tax law."

REQUEST REFUSED

By United Press.
STOCKHOLM, Dec. 29.—American Minister Morris here has refused to cable to Washington requesting that the passports of members of the Ford peace party be extended to include Germany.

Morris refused to take the desired action on the ground that Secretary Lansing had already refused to grant a similar request that was made by the American legation at Copenhagen. Many of the delegates express the opinion that the peace expedition will disintegrate when the party reaches Copenhagen.

It was rumored today that Madame Schinnerer, the Hungarian peace advocate who was the first person to suggest the peace cruise to Ford, had abandoned the expedition, but the report remains unconfirmed.

Ford Feeling Better.

By United Press.
DETROIT, Dec. 29.—Henry Ford is "feeling better," and is enjoying his trip home, according to a wireless message from him received today.

SCUTARI IS ATTACKED

By United Press.
ATHENS, Dec. 29.—The Austrians are attacking Scutari and the Serbs and Montenegrins are preparing to evacuate that place within a few days, according to advices received here today.

It is believed that the Austrians will join the Bulgars and march on Avlona, where the Italians are concentrated.

Chickasha Girl Wins Piano for Best Letter

Several months ago a leading wholesale music house of one of the larger cities offered a series of prizes to be given the young ladies writing the best letter explaining why the piano manufactured by that house were the best. The contest was so arranged that ladies in certain states were eligible for the prizes offered in those states, the entire country being divided so that first, second, third and fourth prizes might be won in different sections of the country at large. Kansas and Oklahoma comprised this section.

Miss Susie Bradley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Bradley won the first prize, a magnificent and expensive piano. Shortly after the closing of the contest Miss Bradley was notified that the judges had awarded her this prize, claiming her letter the most meritorious, and today representatives of the music house installed the piano in her home.

GRAND JURY WILL PROBE ALL PLOTS

Indictment of Alleged Labor Conspirators "Just Good Beginning;"
Mexican Scheme in Scope
of Inquiry

FRAME-UP, SAYS CONGRESSMAN

Buchanan, Indicted, Will Not Resign But Fight District Attorney; Two Plead Not Guilty and Give Bond

By United Press.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—The new grand jury which will be sworn in here next Tuesday, will investigate all alien conspiracies against the United States during the last sixteen months.

Indictments are expected in connection with the alleged Mexican revolutionary plot which resulted in the arrest of Huerta in Texas last summer.

One official said today that the indictment of the eight alleged labor conspirators yesterday was "just a good beginning."

The grand jury investigation just closed, it is believed, established the fact that David Lamar, the "wolf of Wall Street," was the disorganizing agent for Franz Von Rintelen, the German who is under arrest, in connection with the Mexican plot.

The department of justice is known to be taking renewed interest in Huerta's case and it is reported that the complete investigation that is pending will clear up the intervention plot.

Will Not Resign.

By United Press.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—Congressman Buchanan of Illinois says he will not relinquish his seat in the house because of his indictment in connection with the activities of the Peace Labor council.

Buchanan says he will retain his office and will press impeachment charges against District Attorney Marshall of New York. He says his indictment was a frame-up made in Marshall's office.

Give \$5,000 Bonds.

By United Press.
NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—David Lamar and Jacob C. Taylor, against whom indictments charging connection with alien conspiracies were returned by the federal grand jury yesterday, appeared in court today and entered pleas of not guilty. Both of them were released on five thousand dollar bonds.

PROTEST SEIZURE

By United Press.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—Seizure of mail bound to the United States from Holland by way of London will be protested by the American government.

It was learned today that Secretary Lansing, acting upon information received from Consul Skinner at London, is preparing a protest which will soon be sent to England.

For three consecutive days the Daily Express held its forms while the "makeup" stood in readiness to crowd all news of the European war off the front page for the benefit of Pool.

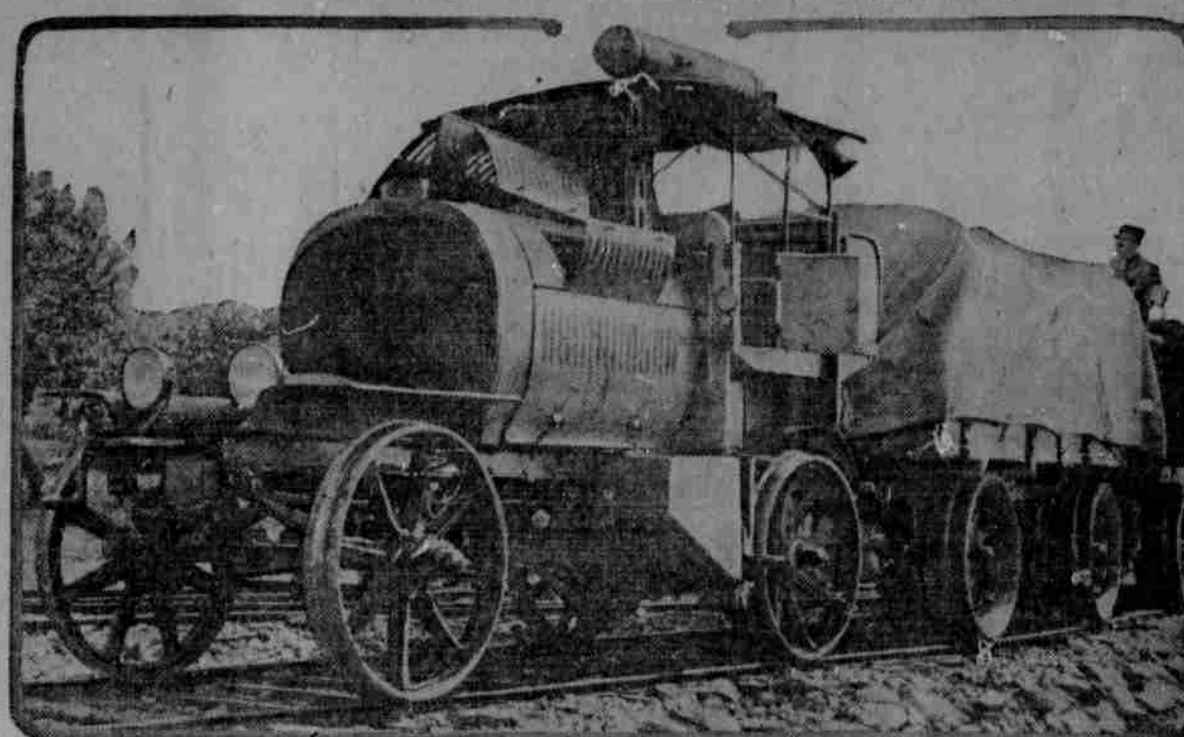
And, still J. Edwin remained an unknown quantity. Local disciples of Sherlock Holmes caught brief and fading glimpses of Pool as he darted from cover to cover, emulating the fabled "Ninnekah critter" of his own minds' creation. But none ever ran him down. Even at the last moment Pool won out. For while friends and former associates and sheriff's officers and newspaper representatives and other magnates were on guard he "slipped one over."

It was late. The chimneys had painted

Local Temperature.
During 24 hours ending 8 a. m. to-day:
Maximum, 37 degrees.
Minimum, 16 degrees.

J. W. Fowler of Edinburg, Okla., who has been visiting Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Bateman, returned home today. He formerly lived in Illinois, where he was a near neighbor of the Batemans for a number of years.

WAR KEEPS ABREAST OF MODERN INVENTIONS



Austrian inventive geniuses engaged in the war are keeping abreast of the modern times, although many ancient instruments are still being used as models for more modern weapons. Here, for instance, is a combination locomotive and freight car. The locomotive generates its propelling power by the use of benzine. The trucks attached to the locomotive are of the ordinary freight car pattern. The real novelty in the equipment, which is being used in the Carso district, is that both locomotive and trucks are equipped with a hybrid set of wheels which, when they come to the end of the railroad line, can still be used on any road, regardless of its roughness.

Stealthy as the "Critter" Sly "Oscar" Slinks Way With His Blushing Bride

Brave news has come to town—
Brave news is carried.
Brave news is all around—
"Oscar" Pool is married.

Songs become popular by fits and starts, by jumps and jerks, by plain spasms and epileptic contortions. Lately one could not walk down the streets, sit at the counters of beereries, start out to church on a Sunday morning, attend a meeting of a board of bank directors, become an advisory visitor at a sitting of President Wilson's cabinet or attend the funeral of a near and dear friend, but that he would hear some one humming or singing about the distance to be journeyed to Tipperary. Years ago, before people cared a damn about the distance to that city of Erin, chance acquaintances and old and tried and true friends, together with total strangers would ask in musical cadences, "Has Anyone Here Seen Kelly?" Not satisfied with the propounding of the query they would advise you that he wore deep blue eyes and was "the man with the red necktie." And Kelly, passed from the ken of the day and generation in which his popularity flourished like unto a "green bay tree." Later the interest in Tipperary waned and died and then the general public of Chickasha, following the advent of J. Edwin Pool on his "just a Christmas visit" to these scenes which knew and loved him in former times, began to scan the records in the marriage license department of Grady county and to hum and sing and whistle the query, "Has Anyone Here Seen Pool?" Not Kelly Pool, as one might infer, but J. Edwin Pool.

And Pool, with all the wisdom and all the cunning and all the total depravity which accumulates in one's system following years and years of prying into others' secrets as a newspaper reporter, proceeded to don his "red necktie," like unto the fabled Kelly, and to go into hiding like a festive bootlegger who has beaten the sheriff to it by about three jumps.

Friends hunted the county court house and took up quarters in Clerk Newman's office asking for Pool. Metropolitan journals wired in queries as to his whereabouts. Ministers of the gospel brushed their frock coats, shined their shoes and furbished up their stovepipe hats and phoned hourly to the court clerk's office seeking information about Pool.

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Another moment and the door swung with a dismal wail upon its rusty hinges, and J. Winton Callahan, first friend to the prospective bridegroom, J. Edwin Pool, appeared upon the scene and in a tragic whisper spoke.

"Hush," said he, "Whisper. A marriage license I would have for the renegade reporter Pool, the man who like unto myself parts his name in the middle."

And shortly after this request the marriage license record showed J. Edwin Pool, Atlanta, Ga., to Miss Irma Rea Rose, Chickasha, Okla.

The marriage of Mr. Pool to Miss Rose was solemnized at 8:30 this morning in the Presbyterian church, Rev. Edward Tels officiating. The only witnesses to the marriage were Mr. and Mrs. J. Winton Callahan.

Following the ceremony the happy couple went to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Miller, Mrs. Miller being a sister of the bride, where a wedding breakfast was served. Later Mr. and Mrs. Pool defied fate by embarking on the Frisco for Oklahoma City, from whence they will journey tonight to their future home in Atlanta, Ga.

forth the closing hour of all offices and Clerk Newman had ostentatiously locked the outer doors of his offices at the court house and hid him home-ward to the evening's bacon and hot biscuits. But, deeply a party to the deep laid plot, Chief Deputy Mrs. Watkins remained within the innermost sanctuaries of the marriage license department of the office. And waiting with but a single incandescent gleaming the lady deputy counted the glancing seconds as they ticked the fleeting minutes of yester even'to eternity. At last the clarion tones of the soon-to-be town clock tolled forth the mystic hour of 7 o'clock p. m.

Again stillness and quiet and peace on earth prevailed. Following the death of the last reverberating echo of the gossiping voice of the tongue of time, the stillness in the clerk's office was so marked that one could hear it. And Mrs. Watkins began to feel creepy and to wish that she had not suffered herself to become a party to the crime, but had forced J. Edwin Pool to walk up to the manger and buy his marriage permit just like an ordinary, common sense human being would and should have done.

"I'm going home," quoth Mrs. Watkins, addressing the deepest shadow which lay hidden in the darkest corner of the office. And she reached forth her hands for her hat and began wiggling her feet into the rubber overshoes lying conveniently at hand when, "Hush! What's that? What creeping noise approaches? Me thinks I list to a stealthy footstep gently sliding up the winding stair."

And so it was. Another moment and the door swung with a dismal wail upon its rusty hinges, and J. Winton Callahan, first friend to the prospective bridegroom, J. Edwin Pool, appeared upon the scene and in a tragic whisper spoke.

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Crashes Into Pole to Avoid Collision

By United Press.

SAN ANGELO, Texas, Dec. 29.—Harry Miers, a fireman, deliberately drove a big motor fire truck into a steel lighting pole to avoid a collision with a light automobile that was driven by the chief of the fire department, John Parker.

The truck was smashed up but Miers and the other fireman who were riding with him escaped without injury.

KILLS WIFE AND CHILD

By United Press.

WICHITA, Kan., Dec. 29.—Albert W. Hewson, said to be a wealthy Oklahoma farmer, shot and killed his wife and crippled step-child with a shotgun at their home here today.

Hewson attempted to flee, but was arrested. He refused to give his Oklahoma address or the cause of his quarrel with his wife.

ADRIFT ON ICE FLOE

By United Press.

TOLEDO, Ohio, Dec. 29.—Russell Lucas, aged 17, and Waddell Hall, aged 24, are adrift on an ice floe in Lake Erie.

The young men were skating on the lake when a strong gale swept the ice far out from the shore.

The skaters were lost to view, making their rescue from their perilous position difficult. A tug has gone to search for them.

Demented Woman is Taken to Asylum

Deputy Sheriff Castleman has returned from Norman where, accompanied by the demented woman's daughter, he transported Mrs. Susan Ward, adjudged insane at a special session of the county insanity board.

Susan Ward is the mother of the fourteen-year-old Lena Ward, the story of whose commitment to the State Industrial School for Girls recently appeared in the Express. At the hearing of the case of her daughter, Mrs. Ward appeared as a witness and told of the alleged delinquencies of the girl, but did not in any manner so conduct herself that anyone would suspect her of being of unsound mind. Within two weeks of the time of the examination of the daughter on delinquency charges, however, the woman appeared at the court house one morning violently insane.

Deputy Castleman upon his return from Norman stated Mrs. Ward raved continuously from the time she left Chickasha until delivered to the officers at the asylum.

INTERRED GERMANS FARE WELL

Confined for Duration of War 750
of Kaiser's Subjects Live in
Big Structure in North
London

MODEL SYSTEM IS WORKED OUT

Scheme of Self-Government Under
British Officer is Successful; Democratic Spirit Grows;
Daily Routine

By WILBUR S. FORREST,
U. P. staff correspondent.

LONDON, Dec. 29.—(By mail.)—When a German torpedo destroyed the Lusitania May 7, causing riots and the subsequent wholesale internment of enemy aliens, England kept its solution of the difficult internment problem strictly secret. After seven months the United Press is able to-day, through the courtesy of the war office, to tell the story for the first time.

British leniency and German thoroughness have co-ordinated to make England's enemy internment business a positive success. Five London Bobbies and a ten-foot fence of American barbed wire guard 750 of the Kaiser's military eligibles at Islington, North London. Inside a great central building and auxiliary structures which in ante-bellum days composed a municipal refuge for the poor, is today a model system of self-government where 750 "citizens" have worked out their own restricted salvation for the duration of the war.

Take note of the Germans you would meet on the streets of Milwaukee, St. Louis or Cincinnati and you would know the appearance of the personnel at Islington. Almost all these were business heads, clerks, bakers, butchers, barbers, cabinet-makers, bookbinders or tradesmen in London before the Lusitania riots. In May hundreds of them were bundled up and sent to Islington, away from harm and mischief.

The 750 were placed in charge of Major Halladay, who has seen service in India. He divided the internees into units of between 30 and 40 and instructed each group to elect its captain. The captains met and elected a captain of captains, a wealthy Prussian business man of London before the war. Presided over by this dignitary, a council of captains is held daily to adjudicate disputes, consider charges and administer business. If judgment of this body is unsatisfactory the case may be passed to Major Halladay.

The latest internee at Islington is a German merchant, enjoying an income of \$125,000 a year. He was unable to secure one of the few private rooms reserved at \$3.50 per week because other internees had taken them. He appealed to the council of captains. The democratic spirit of this unique tribunal asserted itself and the applicant was politely informed that his \$3.50 was no better than anyone's in Islington's "Germany." He appealed to Major Halladay. The major replied that he felt compelled to abide by the decision of the lower court.

The wealthy citizen was forced to occupy regulation quarters. These quarters, in the main building, are ample. They consist of high walled, well ventilated rooms where from eight to fifteen sanitary couches are ranged along the walls. On each is a mattress, blankets and pillow. These together with general lavatories, wash-rooms and bathrooms on every floor, make this internment camp more like a well planned hotel. Large day rooms where visitors may be entertained, a commodious yard with a rain shelter, workshops, a tennis court, dining rooms and tea rooms, make it unnecessary for the men to occupy their sleeping quarters during daylight.

Afternoon tea is a daily event. Here is the routine: Arise at eight; breakfast at 8:30; work, study or diversion until noon (working is optional, but hundreds are busy at various tasks under supervision of the council of captains); dinner at 12; work or exercise at the asylum.

(Continued on Page Two.)